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Maine Writers Correspondence

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10-31-2014

# May Sarton Correspondence

May Sarton 1912-1995

Shirley Thayer 1919-2001

*Maine State Library*

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Curriculum Vitae

Daughter of George Sarton, the distinguished historian of science, and of Mabel Elwes Sarton, an artist; he a Belgian, she an Englishwoman. May Sarton was born in Wondelgem, Belgium, on May 3, 1912, accompanied her parents to the United States in 1916 as refugees of World War I (naturalized 1924, Boston, Mass.).

Education: Shady Hill School, Cambridge, Mass. The High and Latin, Cambridge, Mass. No college. Apprentice at Eva Le Gallienne's Civic Repertory Theatre, New York (1930).

Career: 1930-36. Theatre: apprentice, then member First Studio and Director of Apprentice Group, Civic Repertory, and member of company. 1933-36. Founder and Director, Apprentice Theatre (New School for Social Research, Associated Actors, Inc. (Hartford, Conn. Wadsworth Athenaeum).

1937-40. Taught creative writing and choral speech at The Stuart School, Fenway, Boston, Mass. (no longer exists).

1940-50. Extensive lecturing on poetry in colleges all over the country.

1944-45. Script writer, documentary films, OWI. (Propaganda films about American life which were translated into 26 languages).

1945. Summer session. Poet in residence, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois.

1951-52. Lecturer, Breadloaf Writers' Conference.

✓ 1950-53. Briggs-Copeland Instructor in Composition, Harvard University -

1953-54. Lecturer, Boulder Writers' Conference.

1958-56 *Return, Radcliffe Seminars, Radcliffe College*

1959-60. Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar.

1960-61. Danforth Visiting Lecturer, College Arts Program.

✓ 1960-63. Lecturer in Creative Writing (short story and poetry), Wellesley College.

1964. Poet in Residence at Lindenwood College.

1972. Poet in Residence at Agnes Scott College.

Kudos: 1945. Edward Bland Memorial Prize Poetry Magazine

1945. Golden Rose, New England Poetry Society



1953. Lucy Martin Donnelly Fellow, Bryn Mawr College
1953. Reynolds Lyric Award, Poetry Society of America
- ✓1954. Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship in Poetry
- ✓1955. Honorary Phi Beta Kappa, Radcliffe College
- ✓1958. Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences
- ✓1958. Honorary Litt. D., Russell Sage College
1961. The Johns Hopkins Poetry Festival (lecture and reading of poems)
1967. National Foundation of the Arts and Humanities grant (\$10,000)
- Phi Beta Kappa Poet, Brown University, Agnes Scott, Goucher, Wheaton, Mt. Holyoke
- ✓1971. Doctor of Humane Letters, New England College
1972. Sarah Josepha Hale Award, Newport, N.H.
- ✓1975. Hon. Dr. Letters, Clark University
- 1975 Carpenter Wesleyan Lecturer, Ohio University
- 1976 - Honorary doctorate, U.P.N.H., Bates and Colby Colleges at Thomas Stann King School, Berkeley, Cal.
- Publications: Books of Poetry

Encounter in April	1937	(Houghton Mifflin)
Inner Landscape	1939	(Houghton Mifflin)
The Lion and the Rose	1948	(Rinehart and Co.)
The Leaves of the Tree	1950	(Cornell, Iowa, Chapbook)
The Land of Silence	1953	(Rinehart and Co.)
In Time Like Air	1957	(Rinehart and Co.)
Cloud, Stone, Sun, Vine	1961	(W. W. Norton)
A Private Mythology	1966	(W. W. Norton)
As Does New Hampshire	1967	(Richard R. Smith)
A Grain of Mustard Seed	1971	(W. W. Norton)
A Durable Fire	1972	(W. W. Norton)
Collected Poems	1974	
<u>Novels</u>		
The Single Hound	1938	(Houghton Mifflin)
The Bridge of Years	1946	(Doubleday)
Shadow of a Man	1950	(Rinehart and Co.)
A Shower of Summer Days	1952	(Rinehart and Co.)
Faithful Are The Wounds	1955	(Rinehart and Co.)



Novels (continued)

The Birth of a Grandfather	1957	(Rinehart and Co.)
The Small Room	1961	(W. W. Norton)
Joanna and Ulysses	1963	(W. W. Norton)
Mrs. Stevens Hears The Mermaids Singing	1965	(W. W. Norton)
Miss Pickthorn and Mr. Hare	1966	(W. W. Norton)
The Poet and the Donkey	1968	(W. W. Norton)
Kinds of Love	1970	(W. W. Norton)
As We Are Now	1973	(W. W. Norton)
<i>Crucial Conversations</i>	1975	"
<u>Also</u>		

The Fur Person, the story of a cat	1956	(Rinehart and Co.)
I Knew a Phoenix, Autobiog.	1959	(Rinehart and Co.)
Plant Dreaming Deep, Autobiog.	1968	(W. W. Norton)
Journal of a Solitude, Autobiog.	1973	(W. W. Norton)
<i>A World of Light, authoring -</i>	1976	"
<u>Monographs, Essays, Short Stories</u>		

The Writing of a Poem	1957	Scripps College Bulletin
The Design of a Novel	1960(?)	Scripps College Bulletin
The School of Babylon, in <u>The Moment of Poetry</u>	1962	The Johns Hopkins University Press

Short stories and short pieces since 1945 in The New Yorker, The Writer, Ladies Home Journal, Redbook, Woman's Day, Vogue, The Nation.

Homeward, 12 monthly articles.

Family Circle, June 1968 - June 1969.

Address: P. O. Box <sup>89</sup><sub>C</sub>, York, Maine 03909

For further information see Who's Who and Twentieth Century Authors, First Supplement, 1955. May Sarton, Agnes Sibley (Twayne's United States Authors Series, 1972)

October 8, 1975

Ms. May Barton  
Academy of American Poets  
1030 5th Avenue  
New York, 28, New York

Dear Ms. Barton:

In the State Library, we have a Maine Room in which our growing Maine Author Collection is on permanent display in glass front bookcases. We wish to have all works of Maine authors represented in this collection.

This collection is a permanent exhibit of books by Maine people or books with a Maine flavor. Most of the volumes are inscribed presentation copies which gives an added interest to this valuable collection. We also gather biographical and critical material aiming to have at the State Library as complete a file as available of books by and information about Maine authors.

We would like to have you inscribe a copy of CRUCIAL CONVERSATIONS for inclusion in this collection. It would give us pleasure to place your book on the Maine shelves. We hope that you will also continue to send us your future publications.

We have already purchased copies of your book for our circulating library.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Shirley Thayer, Librarian  
Maine Author Collection  
MAINE STATE LIBRARY

ST:dlg